

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

December 19, 2013

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Mark Tiffer (W2), George Rabideau (W3), Jim Calnon (W4), Chris Case (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

Absent: None

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on December 5, 2013 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending December 18, 2013 in the amount of \$ 774,294.37 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of December 5 – December 18, 2013
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office December 17, 2013
- Finance Department Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the months of November 2013
- Statement from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month of November 2013 in the total amount of \$17,366.21
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on December 16, 2013

RESOLVED: That the reports as listed are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council in the amount of **\$1,370,979.02** are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:

Tim McCormick 162 Margaret Street, President First Weekends and Vice President Downtown Association said he wanted to come to the last meeting of this Common Council to thank all of you for all your hard work with First Weekends. This past year it was a tremendous success. I just wanted to thank all of you it was a pleasure working with all of you. I would like to thank Beth especially she has been a tremendous help. It's been very much appreciated by myself and the entire board. Thank you guys and good luck.

Paul O'Connell 13 Woodland Drive said I want to thank all of you guys on the Council for the work you've put in. The last 3 months has really enlightened me and given me a better appreciation for what you do and it's going to be hard to follow all you guys and hopefully we can do a good job. But I do want to reemphasize about the mooring law. I would like for you to table it so we could further look into that.

Dale Dowdle wanted to say good bye to everyone. Thank you all for your work.

Mike Kelly wanted to thank Councilor Case for adopting a spot. Adopt a spot was his idea he came up with the last time he was on the Council. Glad to see it is still here and glad to see you and your family are going to do this so thank you very much.

7. OTHER ITEMS:

A. RESOLVED: The Common Council having reviewed a Simplified Environmental Assessment Form Part 1, dated December 3, 2013; and having evaluated and made the findings set forth in Part 2, the Common Council finds the proposed action, the enactment of the City of Plattsburgh Mooring Law, will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Calnon
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

B. Motion to enact City of Plattsburgh Mooring Law P-2 as introduced at a City Council meeting held December 5, 2013 and identified as bearing a revision date of 12/2/2013.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Discussion:

Councilor Carpenter moved to table; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(Councilors Carpenter and Rabideau voted in the affirmative. Councilors Tiffer, Calnon, Case and Jackson voted in the Negative. Motion to Table defeated)

ACTION TAKEN: Defeated

Follow up Action: None

Discussion:

Councilor Jackson: all this is doing is defining the city boundaries. Its a local law being enacted it can easily be amended.

Councilor Rabideau: we heard from new council to postpone its a difference of 13 days. We should entrust the mooring law to the new council.

Councilor Tiffer: so at what point do we stop legislating? 13 days, 1 month, 2 months, a year? Its our job to do this. To research, to work with John Clute, to find out what the best solutions are for the problems that we're facing right now. Many of the problems that we face at our waterfront is the lack of regulation. This is the first step to try to do this. As Chris said this law isn't engraved in stone. It can be amended. Why even have a last meeting? Why even have the last month? It's our job to do this. I'm not going to sit here and not do my job.

Councilor Case: I simply want to move forward on this and not 2 steps back. I checked my emails and it went back to at least to June 6th and I think a couple months before that. Correct me if I'm wrong so we missed the 2013 season. I simply want to move it forward. And the law can be adapted and it probably will have to be because it's something new for this city. So I'd like to do my job and I'm in favor of it.

Councilor Carpenter: we have done a lot of work on this and in the back of my mind its been almost 3 years we've been talking about the lakefront and the marina. And I understand how you feel Mark, it's our job and we've got to do it. But, we've got almost a dozen things on the agenda tonight. We had almost that many 2 weeks ago. There's been only 1 item that we've been asked by the future council wait on it, let us deal with it. I'm very uncomfortable with shoving the law down their throat. I prefer that we table this and let the next council deal with it as they can and for that reason I'll be voting no on it.

C. Motion to amend the proposed local law P-2 by making the amendments set forth in a revision to said law dated 12/16/2013.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(Councilors Carpenter and Rabideau voted in the negative. Councilors Tiffer, Calnon, Case and Jackson voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

D. Motion to enact City of Plattsburgh Mooring Law P-2 as amended and identified as bearing a revision date of 12/16/2013.

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(Councilors Carpenter and Rabideau voted in the negative. Councilors Tiffer, Calnon, Case and Jackson voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request from the Council Budget Officer the Common Council amends the Mayor's Budget to include:

1. AFSCME and Police pay increases in 2014 budget, including related benefits
2. AFSCME and Police retro-payroll retirement system impact in 2014 budget.
3. Information Technology budget reduced by one position and the amount moved from payroll to the equipment line item within the IT budget
4. Recreation Complex transfer increased for AFSCME payroll and benefits increases to that fund.
5. Increase the General Fund transfer to the Library fund by \$60,000.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion:

Councilor Calnon: explained why he feels this is necessary; wrap up the work of the old council and the decisions that we had made were there. The new council has the ability to modify whatever budget is out there.

Councilor Carpenter: Asked Richard what is the retro impact on the contracts for the general fund and for the retirement system.

City Chamberlain Richard Marks: for this year \$491,000 Budget Impact 2013 and he further explained.

Councilor Rabideau: Asked Councilor Calnon if he had a meeting with the new council and

discussed all the budget items here.

Councilor Carpenter: Yes

Councilor Rabideau: And they had no objections to it.

Councilor Carpenter: There's at least one of them I think they are going to reverse. But, that's there responsibility.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

F. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Strategic Tourism Planning Committee allocate \$13,000 from the Capital Project H7220.40 (Beach Analysis and Site Design) to bring total funding for Phase I of the Beach Project to the \$45,000 needed.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

G. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Rota Gallery to hold a winter celebration in Westelcom Park on Saturday, December 21, 2013 from 4pm – 7pm.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

H. RESOLVED: The Infrastructure Committee requests that the Mayor sign a 3 year contract with Symquest Group for Managed Printing Services for the City of Plattsburgh starting January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2016. This contract is based on the RFP response received on December 1, 2013. Symquest Group has agreed to all terms specified by the City in the RFP.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion:

Councilor Rabideau: we also discussed this with the new council after one of our meetings and we

didn't hear any objections in moving forward with this.

Councilor Jackson: I would just like to thank Bryan Brayton for his work on this and I think in the long run your going to see a very significant savings for the City of Plattsburgh.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

I. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Kate Quinn to hold the Great Strides Walk to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at Melissa Penfield Park on Sunday May 18, 2014.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

J. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to adjust the 2013 General Fund Budget through a transfer of funding from Finance contract services and training appropriations to Finance office equipment appropriations as per the attached memo. The transfer will not change the total 2013 budget.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

K. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Adopt-A-Spot Program to grant "Case Family and Friends" permission to adopt the Wilcox Dock area and along Cumberland Avenue and Lake shore from Margaret Street to south boundary of Wilcox Dock and keep area free from litter and debris. No work shall commence without the approval of Superintendent of Public Works Mike Brodi.

By Councilor Case; Seconded by Councilor Calnon

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION: None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Councilor Jackson: This is our last meeting. I want to thank all the Managers I've worked with over the past 6 years. You've made it very enjoyable. We have a great group of managers. I want to thank all my fellow councilors and Mr. Mayor I would very much like to thank you it's been an enjoyable 6 years but I am glad it's over.

Councilor Tiffer: It's been a pleasure serving the City of Plattsburgh residents here for the last 3 years. I'm going to miss the spot, but, I know that the Council and Mayor coming in will hold the fort down so I don't worry too much. Merry Christmas to everybody.

Councilor Case: It's been a sincere pleasure and a very good education. I've enjoyed just about every day of it.

Councilor Calnon: There's a couple of members of the council I've known for many years, I count them among my friends. Some that I met only here, count them among my friends. I'm going to be saddened not to see my friends every week. Thank you all and thanks for making my life much more enjoyable every week too. It's been a fun council to work on and I think one that's done good work.

Councilor Rabideau: I've been here for 9 years so I guess I'm the old guy on the council. I wish I could have ran again but term limits kind of did that. I think my replacement should cover things pretty well. It hasn't always been fun, but, I have to say it's always been interesting. No matter how we vote you shouldn't leave this room with a bad feeling. It's a vote we feel is best in our estimation. You can't always agree, but, for the new council I hope you make your decisions based on what is best for the city and the taxpayers and I trust that you will.

Councilor Carpenter: Merry Christmas to all. Congratulations to the incoming council. I'm very proud of what we've accomplished these last 3 years. I think the 7 of us are leaving the city in very decent shape.

Mayor Kasprzak: It's been an honor and a privilege to be Mayor of the City of Plattsburgh. I first started my political career back in 1989 during my first campaign and spent 2 terms here. It has been a learning experience. The best part about this job around this table is that we meet so many fine, good people during our tenure. Government is not easy. The Mayor knows that, Councilor-elect Kelly has experience in that as well. I wish all of you the best of luck in your challenging times ahead because there is no question there coming. And it has nothing to do with this Council and you can look at Albany and you can look at Washington but my only advice will be this. They aren't going to listen folks. It's up to you that are going to sit here in January to make the difficult decisions and unpopular at times to continue to make this city move in the right direction. It is not going to be sometimes an enjoyable trip down the road. But, rest assured if you keep the majority of the people you represent their best interests. They will remember it, they will appreciate it and ultimately you're doing the right thing. I wish the new Council and the new Mayor the best of luck. I'm very confident that you'll work together and do the right things. I look forward to reading the positive things and I will chuckle at some of the other things that Mr. Lotempio may write. I will give you some advice be

careful what you say because your names will be in the paper and you will not be pleased sometimes of what he does write.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:00 pm